



TROY STATE UNIVERSITY AT DOTHAN

# LOGOS



Vol. IV, No. 2  
November 1986

Jack R. Sublette  
Editor

---

## DR. McARTHUR PUBLISHES BOOK

Dr. Priscilla McArthur, an Assistant Professor of History at Troy State University at Dothan, has recently published a book entitled Arkansas in the Gold Rush, in conjunction with the 150th birthday of that state.

The book is about Arkansans who went to California during the Gold Rush years of 1849-1853. The publication is the author's first, taking three years to complete.

"It is a wonderful accomplishment to see it as a book," said Dr. McArthur of the final product. "It is a lot different seeing it as a book rather than as notebook paper."

She said, "Writing the book was relaxing because the pace of life was so different then and so different from the subject matter I teach every day. It used to take people two to five months to get from Arkansas to California and now we complain if it takes more than an hour."

Arkansas in the Gold Rush, as its name implies, deals with the news of the discovery of gold in California and the journeys taken by Arkansans to attempt to strike it rich. Details of the journey are recalled through actual first-hand information as Dr. McArthur researched the book through diaries and newspaper accounts from those making the trip.



"It begins with the news of the Gold Rush reaching Arkansas and the preparation of the different groups from all over Arkansas to make the trip," she explained. "By the spring of 1849, California emigrating companies were organized at Fort Smith and Van Buren, in addition to several other towns in Arkansas. These two cities were located on the Arkansas River and could be reached by steamboat."

At the time of the Gold Rush, Arkansas was the western border of the United States. Therefore, it was a final stopping point for many and a starting point for Arkansans. The book covers trail experiences in the "Golden Land" of California, and the hopes, failures, and disappointments of some of the brave who sought their fortunes in gold.

Some struck it rich and some were just wiser for their experiences along the way," said Dr. McArthur.

Dr. McArthur began her research on the publications while living in Arkansas. "I worked at the Arkansas Territorial Restoration Museum from 1978-1982," she said. "They were doing research on Arkansas' early history and I was the chairperson of that research team. I kept on seeing so much information on Arkansans who went to the Gold Rush and I started a file. When we got through, I had enough to write a book."

The research was funded through a National Endowment for the Humanities grant to the historical Restoration Museum to reconstruct the early history of the state.

Dr. McArthur, who has been teaching at TSUD since 1982, came to Dothan with just the raw materials for the book. "Since I have been at Troy State, I have written the book and gotten it published," she said.

Of her favorite section, Dr. McArthur points out a chapter concerning the women. "I found a marvelous diary of a woman who stayed in Arkansas while her husband was gone to California," she said. "This tells what it was like to be on the other side--the ones who stayed behind. The husbands wrote long letters that were full of information to their wives. There is also a trail romance where a 17-year-old girl falls in love with a soldier on the journey and the soldier dies." The chapter tells what it was like for some



of the women who made the journey as well.

Dr. McArthur will return to Arkansas on November 2 for an autograph party for Arkansas in the Gold Rush as a part of the on-going celebration by the state. She hopes to host an autograph party in Dothan within the next few weeks at a local bookstore.

A copy of her publication is in the Troy State University at Dothan library.

-----

### ACTIVITIES OF THE PRESIDENT

- Met with Dr. Howard Gundy from University of Alabama - September 30
- Met with Mr. B. A. Forrester from Enterprise - October 1
- Lunch with Dr. Charles Payne and other staff members of Department of Postsecondary Education - October 7
- Met with Dr. Edward Teller - October 14
- Attended Pike County Chamber of Commerce Birthday Dinner honoring Troy State University's 100th birthday - October 16
- Attended Bi-racial Committee meeting - October 22
- Attended SouthTrust Bank Reception for area leaders - October 22
- Lunch with Ruud Veltman from Michelin - October 28

-----

### PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Dr. Alan Belsches has continued to help with Houston-Love Memorial Library's literary program, "What America Reads," with discussions of Gone With the Wind, Shane, and From Here to Eternity.

Under the direction and supervision of Dr. Eugene Bergquist, students in Biology 102 and Biology 421/521 have been exploring and studying the site of the future campus for TSUD.



In early October, Dr. Lawrence Brown attended a fall meeting of the Society of Alabama Geographers and Educators (SAGE) at Oak Mountain.

Dr. Dean Davis, along with Mr. Crawford Buchanan and Dr. Frank Lovrich, participated in the Dothan-Houston County Chamber of Commerce Leadership Seminar. Dr. Davis served as Chairman of the Management of Human Resources Seminar and lectured on team building. Dr. Davis has accepted chairmanship of the Small Business Committee for the Chamber of Commerce and is working as Staffing Chairman for the Academic Decathlon to be held December 5. Mrs. Gayle Oberst is one of the coordinators of this program.

Dr. Ann Easley attended the national conference of the American Association of Marriage and Family Therapists (AAMFT) in Orlando, Florida.

To meet requirements of one of her doctoral courses and to provide audio-visual materials for the TSU course in Nursing Leadership, Mrs. Sandra Faria developed a slide-tape presentation entitled "Getting to the Heart of the Negotiation."

Dr. Patricia Fritchie has recently attended and participated in several professional activities: conducted a leadership conference in Mobile for the fall conference of the Alabama Reading Association (ARA); attended the Board Meeting of the ARA; introduced at the Book and Author Luncheon of ARA national known author Eve Eunting; spoke to the Ex Libris Study Club on "Choosing Books for Children and Young Adults"; made a presentation entitled "Motivating Literacy" to Delta Kappa Gamma; attended SAC's Leadership Training Conference at the University of Alabama; and, conducted an in-service workshop at Lisenby Elementary School on "Why Write."

Dr. J. Wyatt Grimmer attended State Department of Education meeting concerning non-traditional graduate programs for teacher certification and also attended the AACTE--both in Montgomery.

As a part of the Dothan-Houston County Leadership Program, Dr. Frank Lovrich taught a class on Demographics of the Wiregrass in the seminar on "Management of Human Resources."



Dr. Elizabeth Majors, in cooperation with Superintendent Walter Daniels and Supervisor of Instruction Judy Johnson, conducted a pre-school workshop for the Miller County (Georgia) teachers on current issues, trends, and methods of instruction as a part of the school system's recognition of "Year of the Child."

Mrs. Gayle Oberst has been and continues to be active in the State Department of Education Career Incentive Program (CIP) by attending training sessions in Birmingham and conducting a CIP training program for principals and coordinators of Covington County; in addition, she attended a meeting of Business and Professional Women and a meeting of Zonta.

At the regional meeting in Huntsville of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, Dr. Sarah Patrick served as a member of the Registration Committee and introduced two speakers, one of whom is Mrs. Linda Dollar, a graduate of TSUD who presented material which she gathered while a graduate student at TSUD.

Dr. Mary Jo Pollman's article "University and Public Library: Joint Venture" appeared in the fall issue of the National Association of Early Childhood Teachers Educators Bulletin. The article concerns the organization of the summer pre-school story hours at the Houston-Love Memorial Library, in which TSUD students in early childhood education participated. Dr. Pollman attended a computer workshop in Ashford, sponsored by the Alabama Association of Young Children, and she presented a research study "Favoring Words Kindergarteners Want to Read and the Implications for Teaching" at the convention of the Alabama State Reading Convention in Mobile.

Dr. Leonard Roberts spoke to the Adult Bible Class of the First Methodist Church in Marianna, Florida, on "Christianity and Islam." Dr. Roberts attended a three-day workshop at UAB to prepare a statewide needs assessment survey of Alabama's elderly.

In early November as a representative of TSUD, Dr. Mary Eve Shoaf will attend an art exhibit and auction, presented by Patrician Gallerie and sponsored by the Daleville High School ROTC.



At the meeting in Atlanta of the Academy of International Business, southeastern region, Dr. Kim Sokoya will present a paper entitled "Private/Public Sector Differences: Impact on Managerial Value Systems."

Mr. Paul Stark spoke on "Marketing for Small Retailers and Small Business" at a luncheon meeting of the Small Business Committee of the Dothan-Houston County Chamber of Commerce.

Dr. Lester Stewart appeared on Ann Varnum's "Morning Show" to promote TSUD's recognition of National Higher Education Week.

Dr. Jack Sublette attended two meetings of the Dothan Rotary Club, a meeting of the Bi-Racial Study Club to hear Joe Carrothers and Mimi Page, represented TSUD at a reception in honor of Congressman Bill Dickinson, met with the TSU System Commencement Committee to discuss and plan a system-wide Spring Commencement in honor of the Centennial celebration, and attended the inauguration of the tenth president of Jacksonville State University, Dr. Harold McGee.

For a class of student nurses at Wallace College, Dr. Dorinda Van Loo gave a presentation on euthanasia, and she showed the video "Teenage Turn On: Drinking and Drugs" and conducted a group discussion with a teenage church group from Dothan and Montgomery.

Mrs. Pamela Williamson attended two Wiregrass Way Report luncheons, spoke on "Mentoring and Networking" to the Dothan chapter of the American Business Women Association, attended the District IX meeting of the Alabama Association of Counseling and Development, and spoke to Dr. Sokoya's MGT 375 class on "Career Planning for Personnel Management."

Mr. Forrest (Buzz) Wood attended the fall conference of the Alabama Council for Computer Education (ACCE) at AUM. As a part of the Special Interest Group in Computer Science, Mr. Wood will be working with other post-secondary educators in Alabama to develop curricular programs in computer and information science more closely parallel with the needs and interests of industry and business.

FACULTY AND STAFF  
NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

2    Ms. Gaye Peacock  
3    Ms. Wannie Richards  
5    Mr. Ron Gray  
7    Mrs. Sandra Faria  
10   Mrs. Pamela Williamson  
13   Dr. Eugene Bergquist  
27   Dr. Dean Davis

-----  
NEW EMPLOYEES

Dr. Carolyn Holdsworth

Troy State University at Dothan has added Dr. Carolyn Holdsworth to the faculty in the College of Arts and Sciences as an Assistant Professor of English.

Dr. Holdsworth comes to TSUD from Montgomery where she worked in real estate and taught part-time for Troy State University in Montgomery. She has taught previously at the University of New Orleans.

Dr. Holdsworth, who lived in Dothan for a year during her childhood, received her bachelor's and master's degrees from Auburn University and earned her doctorate from Tulane University in 1983.

She has had several items published and is currently working on a book about William Butler Yeats, the Irish poet and dramatist, that she hopes to have completed within the next year. Dr. Holdsworth began working on the book as a graduate student at Tulane and has been to Ireland to the home of the Yeats' son, Michael, to study the actual manuscripts the writer used. She has had four essays published as well as a book review.

Dr. Lawrence A. Brown, the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at TSUD, said Dr. Holdsworth was selected for the position from nearly 100 applicants. "Although she has



been on the job for only a few weeks," Brown said, "Dr. Holdsworth has already become a vital force in the general studies and English major programs."

Dr. Holdsworth is teaching three courses at TSUD fall quarter, including Modern Poetry, Advanced Grammar, and World Literature.

She said she is proud of the opportunity to teach students like the ones attending Troy State University at Dothan, claiming, "They are the kind of students that I envisioned when I chose teaching as a profession."

-----

### **Mrs. Reta Cordell**

Reta Cordell has joined the staff at Troy State University at Dothan in the Division of Student Affairs and Development as the Assistant Director of Admissions.

Mrs. Cordell comes to TSUD from Graceville, Fla., where she has worked in the Records Office at Baptist Bible Institute for the past year. Prior to moving to Graceville, she worked for the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga for more than three years.

Mrs. Cordell attended Auburn University and the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, where she received her bachelor's degree in 1981.

A native of Louisville, Ala., Mrs. Cordell joined TSUD during Fall Quarter registration and was quickly impressed with the atmosphere of the University. "My first impression during registration was the cohesiveness of each department. I noticed how each department worked together, and I know that is important," she said. "This is more like the environment at UTC and I love an academic environment."

Dr. Jack R. Sublette, the Vice President for Student Affairs and Development at Troy State University at Dothan, is pleased to have Mrs. Cordell in his department. "She is an outstanding person and is a credit to our University. I am delighted that she has joined us at TSUD," said Sublette.



Mrs. Cordell and her husband, Jerry, have been married 20 years. They have two children--Lee, age 14, and Gina, age 10. The Cordells live in Graceville.

-----  
NEWS FROM . . . .

President's Office

Mr. A. C. Allen, Jr., member of the TSUD Advisory Board, Dr. Frank Lovrich, and Dr. Jack Sublette are working on a Capital Funds Campaign to raise the first \$1,000,000 for our new campus site. You will be hearing more about this as plans progress.

Dr. Frank Lovrich and a specially appointed ACHE/SREB University Task Force are working with Dr. David Spence of the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) to assess needs for higher education in the Wiregrass area. Other colleges and community leaders will be involved in the study.

TSUD vice presidents have submitted their divisional goals for the academic year. Each administrator has been charged with the responsibility to communicate his/her expectations to each employee. Let's continue to work together to build a better TSUD.

Administration/Business Office

Until December 5, Mrs. Oberst will be out of the office frequently in connection with her participation in the Career Incentive program; however, her staff will conduct business as usual. The cooperation and consideration of the faculty and staff during this period are appreciated.

Admissions, Recruiting, and Student Activities

The Admissions Office has worked toward defining its policies and procedures. The Director of Admissions visited the Office of Enrollment Services at TSUT earlier this month to gain insight to their procedures. Steps have been taken to compile a manual which will outline the admissions process from the receipt of the application until the student is notified of his/her status in order to be more time effective.



The new recruiting year has begun. During the month of October the Director of Admissions has visited seven area high schools and one junior college. Approximately fifty prospect files have been created from these visits.

### Bookstore

Mrs. Jo Thompson invites and encourages faculty and staff to see new items of interest in the Bookstore: posters by Argus, greeting cards for every occasion, love notes by Russ, post cards, gift center, 1987 appointment planners, 1987 calendar refills, 1987 Plan-A-Month wall calendars.

### Communications/Personnel

If there are any questions about the new Blue Cross/Blue Shield materials, please contact Mark McCuistian.

### Counseling Services

The Office of Counseling Services is sponsoring a weekly video presentation on careers and wellness themes during fall quarter. Selected videos are shown on Thursday of each week. Titles and showtimes are posted in the lobby each week.

### Institutional Research and Planning

The Director of Institutional Research and Planning, Dr. Frank Lovrich, has been actively working with a variety of endeavors: chairing the ACHE/SREB Committee; chairing the University Master Plan Committee to develop a master plan for the development, relocation, and expansion of the University; preparing a video presentation for use in the Capital Funds Campaign; formulating letters of appeal for the fund drive; representing TSUD with UAB in a geriatric research project; preparing Institutional Profile for SACS; and, preparing forms required by ACHE.

### Public Relations

- 25 news releases/photos mailed to area newspapers.
- Organized participation in the National Peanut Festival, including the constructing, erecting, and removing of the display booth.



- Photographed employees of TSUD for centennial newspaper edition by the Troy State University System.
- Arranged interviews with WKMX radio for Newsmaker Sunday which will be aired on November 2, November 9, and November 16.
- Designed posters displayed in the lobby to recognize employees for National Higher Education Week.
- Opened communications with the Wiregrass Today newspaper.
- Established resource listing for area media to consult for TSUD employee views concerning world events.
- Arranged autograph parties for Dr. Friscilla McArthur at local bookstores for her recently published book Arkansas in the Gold Rush.

The display booth at this year's National Peanut Festival received a second place ribbon. This is believed to have been the first time a TSUD display has received such recognition at the Festival. The Office of Public Relations would like to thank those who volunteered their time to work at the University booth. The job of participation is made much easier when people volunteer their efforts to represent TSUD.

The photographs of the University employees were completed and sent to the Public Relations Office at the Troy campus. The photos and signatures will be used in a centennial newspaper edition being composed by the System.

During the month of October, the Public Relations Office sent approximately 25 news releases/photos to the area media concerning items of public interest about TSUD. We hope to maintain this rapid pace of getting information out to the public and we continue to seek your assistance. Any items you feel are worth of coverage concerning faculty, staff, and students, please notify us at ext. 231. We'll take it from there.

### School of Business

The School of Business will soon announce Business Advisory Council Scholarship recipients. Curriculum Committee is examining changes in CIS curriculum, additional courses to allow Business Student Internship Program, and the assess-



ment of students' learning in School of Business degree programs. The National Association of Accountants (NAA) met to organize a TSUD student chapter.

-----

#### STUDENT ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE PLANS DANCE

Charged with the responsibility of planning and executing an annual series of programs (educational, cultural, and/or social) and/or student activities to be funded by the Student Activity fee, the Student Activities Committee was recently formed:

Mr. Rob Paul, Chairman  
Dr. Jim Davies, College of Arts & Sciences  
Mrs. Carolyn Jordan, School of Business  
Dr. Betty Anderson, School of Education  
Ms. Stacey Ard, Student  
Mr. Gary Corbin, SGA Representative

The Committee is planning a night of nostalgia, dancing, prizes, and food for Saturday, November 22, exact time TBA. All faculty, staff, students, and their guests are invited. The Committee covets the support of all faculty and staff for the dance, for future activities, and for ideas.

-----

LOGOS, the Troy State University at Dothan Faculty and Staff Newsletter, is distributed monthly by the Division of Student Affairs and Development. It is intended to be a vehicle for the dissemination of information to employees of the University. Suggestions as to format and content of the LOGOS will be welcomed by the Student Affairs staff. Employees are encouraged to submit data for inclusion no later than the 25th of each month.